

REMARKS

This Application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action mailed June 28, 2005. In order to advance prosecution of this Application, Claims 1-9 and 11-14 have been amended. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and favorable action in this Application.

Claims 2 and 3 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claims 2 and 3 have been amended to address matters raised by the Examiner. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 2 and 3 are in accordance with 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

Claims 1-7 and 12-14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Cisneros. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Independent Claims 1-6 recite in general a plurality of data demultiplexers, each data demultiplexer having a data input port at which a data stream is received, and each demultiplexer having a plurality of data output ports each of which is coupled to a separate one of the input data queues associated with each corresponding cross bar switch input port. By contrast, the Cisneros patent provides a plurality of outputs from a data demultiplexer to a single input module queue. Thus, the Cisneros patent fails to provide a plurality of data outputs from a data demultiplexer to separate input data queues as required by the claimed invention. Support for the above recitation can be found at page 7, paragraph 0026, of Applicant's specification.

Independent Claims 12-14 recite ". . . , each parallel-coupled cross-bar switching system including a demultiplexer, a plurality of input queues, and a cross-bar switch, the demultiplexer operable to generate a plurality of outputs from an input stream, the demultiplexer operable to provide each of

the plurality of outputs to a separate one of the plurality of input queues, each input queue being associated with a particular input to the cross-bar switch . . .” By contrast, as discussed above, the Cisneros patent provides a plurality of demultiplexer outputs to a single input module queue. Thus, the Cisneros patent fails to provide a plurality of data outputs from a data demultiplexer to separate input data queues as required by the claimed invention. Support for the above recitation can be found at page 7, paragraph 0026, of Applicant’s specification.

As shown above, the Cisneros patent lacks certain features provided by the claimed invention. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 1-7 and 12-14 are not anticipated by the Cisneros patent.

Claims 8-11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Cisneros in view of Sharma. The Examiner cites the Sharma memorandum in support of the rejection to these claims. However, the Sharma memorandum is an internal confidential document of the Applicant that has not been shown to have been publicly disclosed before the earliest effective filing date of this Application. Moreover, the stated date of December 8, 1999 for the Sharma memorandum is less than one year before the earliest effective filing date of this Application. In addition, the Sharma memorandum and this Application were, at the time the invention was made, owned by the same entity. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that the Sharma patent does not qualify as prior art for this Application.

CONCLUSION

Applicant has now made an earnest attempt to place this case in condition for allowance. For the foregoing reasons and for other reasons clearly apparent, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and full allowance of all pending claims.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 02-0384 of BAKER BOTTS L.L.P.

Respectfully submitted,

BAKER BOTTS L.L.P.

Attorneys for Applicants

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Charles S. Fish', is written over the printed name.

Charles S. Fish

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